

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 15640 042254Z
ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2945
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C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 15640

EXDIS

NOFORN

USEEC

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: TECH, ENGR, EC
SUBJECT: RENEGOTIATION OF U.S.-EURATOM AGREEMENT

REF: BRUSSELS 15639

1. DURING DISCUSSION ABOUT FUTURE RENEGOTIATION OF U.S.-EURATOM AGREEMENTS FOR COOPERATION (REFTEL), BRUNNER'S CHEF DE CABINET ROLF MOEHLER TOLD CHARGE THAT, DURING RECENT CONVERSATION BETWEEN QUAI SECRETARY GENERAL SOUTOU AND EC COMMISSIONER BRUNNER, SOUTOU ALLEGEDLY SAID PRESIDENT CARTER HAD ASSURED GISCARD THAT U.S. WOULD TAKE NO ACTION TO CHANGE U.S.-EURATOM AGREEMENTS WHILE INFCE WAS STILL IN PROGRESS. MOEHLER SAID FRENCH WERE USING THIS ASSURANCE AS REASON FOR OPPOSING OUR REQUEST TO COMMISSION FOR AGREEMENT TO RENEGOTIATE.

2. CHARGE SAID HE KNEW NOTHING ABOUT SUCH ASSURANCE BUT FELT SURE THAT, IF PRESIDENT AND GISCARD HAD DISCUSSED THE
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ISSUE, FRENCH MUST HAVE MISUNDERSTOOD WHAT PRESIDENT HAD SAID. HE STRESSED THAT LAW AS CURRENTLY DRAFTED IN BOTH HOUSES OF CONGRESS GIVES NRC AND PRESIDENT FLEXIBILITY TO PERMIT CONTINUED LICENSING OF EXPORTS TO EURATOM COUNTRIES AFTER ENACTMENT, BUT ONLY IF EURATOM HAS AGREED TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATION ABOUT NEW AGREEMENTS. HE SPECULATED THAT PRESIDENT MAY HAVE TOLD GISCARD THAT HE WAS PREPARED TO

EXERCISE THAT FLEXIBILITY DURING INFCE PERIOD, WHICH COR-
RESPONDS ROUGHLY TO "GRACE" PERIOD FOR OLD EURATOM AGREE-
MENTS IN CURRENT BILLS, BUT THAT FRENCH INTERPRETATION
THAT THIS MEANT THERE WAS NO NEED FOR NEGOTIATIONS DURING
THAT PERIOD WOULD SURELY BE AN ERROR.

3. MOEHLER URGED THAT WE TAKE NO ACTION VIS-A-VIS FRENCH
WHICH WOULD INDICATE THAT MOEHLER TOLD US ABOUT BRUNNER-
SOUTOU CONVERSATION. MORRIS

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 04-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
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